

REMARKS

Presently pending in this application as amended herein are claims 1-2, 4, 7-13, 15-21, 23-26, and 28-42. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added by the amendments herein. Entry of these amendments to the claims and reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

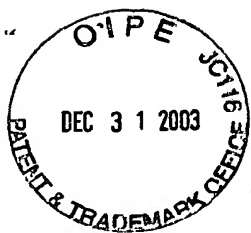
Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for his indication that the subject matter recited in claims 7, 22, 27-29 and 31 is allowable. As discussed below, all independent claims are amended herein to contain allowable subject matter, and accordingly are allowable as well.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-6, 8-10, 25, 26, 30 and 32-39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) ("Section 102(b)") as being anticipated by U.S. patent No. 6,200,050 to Lin ("Lin"). Claims 1-6, 8-16, 19, 20, 23-26, 30, 33, 34, 36, 37 and 39 have been rejected under Section 102(b) as being anticipated by German patent No. DE 3922777 to Felgentreu ("Felgentreu"). Claims 1-3, 10-18, 20, 25, 30, 33-35, 37 and 39 have been rejected under Section 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent No. 5,599,122 to Yu ("Yu").

Claim 1 has been amended herein to incorporate the limitations of dependent claims 3 and 5 and allowable dependent claim 7. Although allowable dependent claim 7 also incorporates the limitations of claim 4, it is believed that such limitations are not required for rendering independent claim 1 allowable and thus have not been incorporated into claim 1. Dependent claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form incorporating all limitations of the claims from which claim 7 depends. Independent claim 11 has been amended herein to incorporate all of the limitations of allowable dependent claim 22. Independent claim 25 has been amended herein to incorporate all of the limitations of allowable dependent claim 27. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 11, and 25, as amended herein, are in allowable form..

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not represent acquiescence in the Examiner's rejections, but instead are made to expedite allowance of the present application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue subject matter recited in the original claims in, for example, a continuation application.



RECEIVED

JAN 07 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Therefore, for the reasons stated above, it is respectfully requested that the above amendments be entered, the rejections to claims 1-6, 8-21,¹ 23-26, 30, and 32-39 be withdrawn, and a notice of allowance of all pending claims be issued in due course.

New Claims

New claim 40 presents original dependent claim 28 in independent form, and new claim 41, which depends from claim 40, incorporates the subject matter of claim 29. As the Examiner has indicated that the subject matter of claims 28 and 29 are allowable over the prior art, it is respectfully submitted that claims 40 and 41 are also allowable.

New claim 42 presents original dependent claim 31 in independent form. As the Examiner has indicated that the subject matter of claim 31 is allowable over the prior art, it is respectfully submitted that claim 42 is also allowable.

No fee is believed due with the filing of this Amendment. Should any additional fees be due, please charge any such fees to Pennie & Edmonds LLP deposit account no. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

David D. Lee 51,929

Date: December 31, 2003

By:

For: Brian M. Rothery 35,340

David D. Lee (Reg. No. 51,929)

For: Brian M. Rothery (Reg. No. 35,340)

PENNIE & EDMONDS LLP

1155 Avenue of the Americas

New York, NY 10036

(212) 790-9090

¹ We note that the cover sheet for the October 3, 2003 Office action indicated that claim 21 had been rejected, but that there was no specific rejection of claim 21 in the Office action itself. However, it is respectfully submitted that this issue is moot in light of the amendments to the claims made herein, and that claim 21 is allowable over the prior art.